

Annual General Assembly of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs

Due to COVID-19 the VNGOC Board decided to hold all meetings during the 65th CND online, including the Annual General Assembly. The VNGOC Board and the Nominations

Committee further decided to deliver the General Assembly in two parts:

1. Part 1 of the AGM was held on 10th March 2022 (15:00 – 16:30 Vienna time) using Zoom
2. Part 2 of the AGM was held on 17th March 2021 (16:30-18:00 Vienna time) using Zoom

The recordings of the meetings as well as the full presentations are available at

<http://vngoc.org/about-the-vngoc/vngoc-meetings/>.

DRAFT MINUTES

AGM PART 1

1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The Committee **adopted** the draft agenda.

2. Attendance and apologies for absence

121 people attended Part 1 of the AGM and 84 people attended Part 2 of the AGM. 94 member organisations in good standing registered to vote in the VNGOC elections. (see Annex 1)

No apologies were received by the Secretary prior to the meeting.

3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The [draft minutes](#) of the meeting held on 8th December 2021 have been circulated. The Committee **approved** the draft as a correct record of the meeting.

4. Board elections

The nominations committee (*Amy Ronshausen, Drug Free America Foundation, Inc.; Charity Monareng, TB/HIV Care; George Ochieng Odalo, Slum Child Foundation; Ifeanyi Nwanoro, CIPDI; Jorge H Valderrábano, Instituto RIA; Marie Nougier, IDPC; Memory Usaman, Rwanda Youth Impact; Monica Barzanti, San Patrignano; Mousa Daoud, TJADS*) presented the procedures for the online Board elections, which were also circulated before the meeting. The elections were held online via electionrunner.com in the following order (all times CET):

- Deputy Chairperson: Monday, 14th March 11am to Tuesday, 15th March 10am
- Treasurer: Tuesday, 15th March 11am to Wednesday, 16th March 10am
- Secretary: Wednesday, 16th March 11am to Thursday 17th March 10am

The meeting was then formally paused by Jamie Bridge (Chair) for the duration of the elections, to be resumed on Thursday 17th March, 4.30pm CET.

AGM PART 2

5. Board elections (continuation of item 4)

Out of 146 members in good standing, 94 registered to vote in the Board elections. The final results were confirmed by the nominations committee as follows:

Deputy Chair:

Nominee	Organisation	Votes Received
Matej Kosir	Utrip	61
Maria Angélica de Castro Comis	Centro de Convivência É de Lei - É de Lei	8
Augusto Nogueira	ARTM	7
Seyed Ramin Radfar	Rebirth Charity Society	3
Ibrahim Shahzada	Northern citizen community Board	1
Dr Kawal deep Kour	South Asian drugs and Addictions Research Council	1

Treasurer:

Nominee	Organisation	Votes Received
Beatrix Vas	Youth RISE	65
Sana Ullah Rathore	Pakistan Youth Organization	12
Iulia Vatau	Students for Sensible Drug Policy	8
Michael Anguria	SAF-TESO	4

Secretary:

Nominee	Organisation	Votes Received
Asia Ashraf	World Federation Against Drugs	58
Augusto Nogueira	ARTM	14
Ma Inez Feria	No Box Philippines	11
Michael Anguria	SAF-TESO	1
Sana Ullah Rathore	Pakistan Youth Organization	3

6. Nominations Committee

The board and the nominations committee invited the Committee to provide feedback on the election modalities.

Committee members gave the following feedback:

- The recommendation of the election committee shouldn't be listed on the ballot and/or at least the recommended candidates shouldn't automatically be listed first.
- The election committee needs to be as balanced and as diverse possible
- A slot for Youth (25 years and below) should be taken into account in the recommendations of the nominations committee

The membership was asked to nominate and confirm the nominations committee for the 2023 Board Elections. The following people were appointed:

- Marie Nougier (IDPC),
- David Borden,
- Stig-Erik Sorheim,
- Steve Rolles,
- Amy Ronshausen (Drug Free America Foundation),
- Riccardo Villas Boas (FEBRACKT)
- Olivia Delair (Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy),
- Sana Ullah Rathore (Pakistan Youth Forum),
- Stacey Doorly Jones (STAND),
- Chandima Wijerathna (Helping Children),

- Emma G (Menorah Foundation)

7. Membership

The Committee was informed about the latest applications for membership and the new members were officially introduced.

26 new organisations from 18 different countries were admitted since April 2021, bringing the total membership to 338 organisations. The list of new member organisations can be found [here](#).

8. Annual Report

The Board presented the VNGOC [annual report](#) and reflected on activities for 2021. In particular, the Board presented civil society speaking opportunities in 2021 and the range of speakers selected by the VNGOC. The annual report was **approved**.

9. Financial Report 2021 and Budget 2022

The Board informed the Committee about the annual accounts for 2021 and the latest financial status – contained within the annual report. The Auditors, Mousa Daoud (Jordan Green Crescent) and John Redman (CADFY), confirmed their **approval** of the financial documentation.

The Board presented the budget for 2022, and the Committee **approved**.

10. Appointment of an auditor

The membership was asked to nominate and confirm an auditor. Mousa Daoud (The Jordan Anti Drug Society) volunteered and was **appointed for two years** (2022-2024). The term of the second auditor, John Redman (CADFY) continues until 2023 (2021-2023).

11. Strategic Plan 2022-25

The Board presented the [Strategic Plan 2022-25](#), and the Committee **approved**.

12. UNODC update

The Committee received an update on developments within UNODC from the Civil Society Unit. The Civil Society Unit especially highlighted the successful webinars

13. Appointment of an auditor

The membership was asked to nominate and confirm an auditor. Beatrix Vas (Students for Sensible Drug Policy) volunteered and was **appointed for two years**, replacing Mousa Daoud (Jordan Green Crescent).

14. Any other business

The chair informed the Committee about the upcoming 40th anniversary of the VNGOC and shared some initial ideas including a possible joint reception co-hosted by the City of Vienna and UNODC.

The chair raised an issue regarding ECOSOC accreditation and the process of gaining consultative status and informed the Committee about a joint statement of the VNGOC together with NYNGOC, the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the UNCAC Coalition.

Increasingly NGOs applying for ECOSOC consultative status are deferred by the UN Committee of NGOs for several years.

ANNEX 1 – registered voters

Organisation
International Federation of Social Workers
Alcohol and Drug Foundation
UTRIP
Institute of Leadership and Development
Empower India
San Patrignano Foundation
Pakistan Youth Organization
Stockholm Drug Users Union
Mian Afzal Trust Hospital
Centre on Drug Policy Evaluation
Centro de Convivência É de Lei
FORUT
Drug Free America Foundation
Foreningen Tryggere Ruspolitikk
Conectatos pela Vida
Innovative and Pragmatic Development Initiative
Green Moon Georgia
TNI
Knowmad
HPP, Finnish Association for Humane Drug Policy
Penal Reform International
Pertubuhan Bulan Sabit Hijau Malaysia / Green Crescent Malaysia
Foreningen for human narkotikapolitikk
Green Crescent South Africa
Harm Reduction Australia
Drug Policy Centre in Sweden (Narkotikapolitiskt Center, NPC)
IOGT-NTO
Turkish Green Crescent Society
SSDP Australia
FEDITO BXL
TB HIV Care
Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad
Mainline
NORTHERN CITIZEN COMMUNITY BOARD
African Action on Aids
Karim Khan Afridi Welfare Foundation (KKAFF)
Social Transformation Action Defined-STAND
SPERO
Rebirth
CADCA

ICEERS
Intercambios
Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA)
Youth for Human Rights Pakistan
Green Crescent Health Development Initiative Nigeria
International Council of Women (ICW)
IDPC
Green Crescent Sri Lanka
Society for Recovery Support
ARTM
Elternkreis Wien
Drug Free Australia
IFNGO
NoBox
WHRIN
EuroTC
Association Proyecto Hombre
Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association
Dianova
NZ Drug Foundation
MUCD
IAHPC
Jordan Anti Drug Society (TJADS)
Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA)
Harm Reduction International
DRCnet
WFAD
Correlation-European Harm Reduction Network
Association on Drug Studies and Interventions (ACEID)
Transform Drug Policy Foundation
Students for Sensible Drug Policy
Dalgarno Institute
RIOD
IG SEMATIK
Acción Técnica Social (ATS)
Instituto RIA
FORUM DROGHE
SAF-TESO
PENGASIH Malaysia
CADFY
Centros de Integración Juvenil (CIJ)
Japan Advocacy Network for Drug Policy (NYAN)
Movendi

CELS
Latinoamerica Reforma Foundation
Open Society Foundation
NORML France
FAAAT
Virginians Against Drug Violence
ENCOD
Drug Policy Australia
ACTIS
EURAD



ANNEX 2 – budget

BUDGET 2022



Income		Expenditure	
Membership Fees	€ 11,000	Salary Costs	€ 8,000
Travel Grants (from reserves)	€ 4,000	Travel Grants for NGO Speakers	€ 4,000
UNODC Grant	€ 10,000	Regional Working Groups	€ 2,000
		Events/ Webinars	€ 2,000
		Board Meeting	€ 3,500
		Bank Fees	€ 1,500
		Office Expenditure/ Website	€ 4,000
Total	€ 25,000	Total	€ 25,000

WORKPLAN

- Continue to support civil society engagement at meetings of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)
- Continue to call for full, meaningful civil society participation across all international debates and processes concerning drug policies and related matters
- Continue to encourage a global, balanced and strategic NGO voice in the debates on drug policies and related issues.
- Effective and efficient management and promotion of the Committee